“Changing America” commemorates these two pivotal achievements on their 150th and 50th anniversaries by exploring their historical context, accomplishments and limitations, as well as the impact on the generations that followed. The exhibit helps audiences understand and discuss the relationship between the two great, decades-long people’s movements that demanded justice through bold actions, resistance, organization and vision and ultimately resulted in the Emancipation Proclamation and the March on Washington.
Despite the freedoms granted by the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863, nearly 100 years later African Americans in the Southern states still lived with disenfranchisement, segregation and oppression. Race-related violence against African Americans in the South was common and accepted. They tolerated “Jim Crow” laws that barred them from facilities and institutions used by whites, and could not vote or serve on juries. The civil rights movement, in reaction to this state of affairs, came to a head during the 1960s and brought about much positive change amidst great turbulence.

In the second half of its “Created Equal: America’s Civil Rights Struggle” series, the Dwight Marvin Library at Hudson Valley Community College presents talks by leading civil rights scholars on this history and the current state of civil rights in this country. There will be three full-length screenings of Freedom Riders, followed by a moderated discussion of the 1961 movement, and students will learn how they can become involved in today’s social justice initiatives.
**FREEDOM RIDERS: FILM SCREENINGS**

Tuesday, Oct. 20, Noon (first half)
Thursday, Oct. 22, Noon (second half)
Wednesday, Oct. 21, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 22, 4 - 6 p.m.

Film screenings take place in
Marvin Library Learning Commons, Rm. 225

*Freedom Riders* profiles the civil rights activists who challenged segregation in the American South in 1961. As described by WGBH's "American Experience," the film is the powerful, harrowing and ultimately inspirational story of six months in 1961 that changed America forever. From May until November 1961, more than 400 black and white Americans risked their lives — and many endured savage beatings and imprisonment — for simply traveling together on buses and trains through the Deep South. Deliberately violating Jim Crow laws, the Freedom Riders met with bitter racism and mob violence along the way, sorely testing their belief in nonviolent activism.


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**THE PORT CHICAGO 50: DISASTER, MUTINY AND THE FIGHT FOR CIVIL RIGHTS**

Steve Sheinkin
National Book Award Finalist

Monday, Nov. 2, 1 - 1:50 p.m.
BTC Auditorium

Award-winning author Steve Sheinkin talks about his book, "The Port Chicago 50," a World War II civil rights story about a group of African American sailors — many of them teenagers — who were assigned to load ammunition at Port Chicago, a segregated naval base in California. They were never trained to handle ammunition safely and were constantly being rushed by their officers. When a terrifying disaster rocked the base, the men faced the toughest decision of their lives: should they return to duty as ordered, or risk everything to take a stand against segregation in the military?

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**GETTING INVOLVED IN THE MOVEMENT**

Date/Time/TBD
Siek Campus Center, Rm. 240

Students are invited to join this discussion led by leaders of the Black and Latino Student Union. The role of college students in past and current social movements will be examined. Refreshments will be provided by the Black and Latino Student Union.

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For more information about this program, visit www.hvcc.edu/created-equal or call (518) 629-7388.
“Changing America: The Emancipation Proclamation, 1863 and the March on Washington, 1963” is presented by the Smithsonian’s National Museum of African American History and Culture and the National Museum of American History in collaboration with the American Library Association Public Programs Office. The exhibition is made possible by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and is part of NEH’s Bridging Cultures initiative, “Created Equal: America’s Civil Rights Struggle,” which brings four outstanding films on the civil rights movement to communities across the United States (see http://createdequal.neh.gov). “Created Equal” encourages communities across the country to revisit and reflect on the long history of civil rights in America.

MARVIN LIBRARY LEARNING COMMONS HOURS

Monday - Thursday: 7 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Friday: 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

For exceptions, including days when classes are not in session and summer hours, go to www.hvcc.edu/learning-commons/hours

“Created Equal: America’s Civil Rights Struggle” is made possible through a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, as part of its Bridging Cultures initiative, in partnership with the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History.